

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06776 020655Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 CA-01 HA-05 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 /086 W
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R 020613Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2650

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, BDIS, (SAHEKI, AKIRA)

REF: SEOUL 6726 AND PREVIOUS, STATE 194180

1. EVENING OF TUESDAY AUGUST 1 CONOFF, SAHEKI, AND
ALTERMAN MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DONG HWA IN THE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SEOUL METRO-
POLITAN POLICE. AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN DONG
HWA AND SAHEKI AND DONG HWA HAS WITHDRAWN THE CRIMINAL
CHARGES AGAINST SAHEKI. THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT READS
AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

MR. AKIRA SAHEKI AGREES TO RETURN HOME AND PROMPTLY
INVESTIGATE WHETHER THERE WAS A SHORTAGE OF 204,260
SCRIBNER SCALE OF LOGS ON BOARD THE M.S. "CAPE MANDARIN".
IF THE INVESTIGATION PROVES A SHORTAGE OF THAT AMOUNT,
HE WILL PROMPTLY PAY DONG HWA & CO., LTD.
\$73,533.60 (U.S.). MR. SAHEKI AGREES TO COMPLETE THE
INVESTIGATION WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS AFTER HIS RE-
TURNING TO THE UNITED STATES.

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 06776 020655Z

DONE AND DATED IN SEOUL, KOREA
AUGUST 1, 1978

AKIRA SAHEKI

MR. H.D. LEE, PRESIDENT, SHIN HUNG LUMBER CO., LTD.,
GUARANTEES TO DONG HWA & CO., LTD THE FULL AND FAITH-

FUL PERFORMANCE BY MR. AKIRA SAHEKI OF HIS ABOVE
AGREEMENT. END TEXT.

MR. LEE ALSO SIGNED THE GUARANTEE AND AFFIXED HIS SEAL
TO IT.

3. SAHEKI AND LATERMAN BOTH FEEL THAT THE AGREEMENT
IS A GOOD ONE AS IT ALLOWS HIM TO LEAVE KOREA WITHOUT

PAYMENT OF THE DISPUTED AMOUNT AND COMMITS HIM ONLY
TO PAY DONG HWA IF THERE WAS INDEED A SHORTAGE WHICH
IS OF COURSE PROPER. POST WILL IMPRESS UPON SAHEKI
AND ALTERMAN THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING HIS END OF THE
AGREEMENT.

4. THE AGREEMENT SEEMS TO BE MERELY A MEANS FOR DONG
HWA TO SAVE FACE AND THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF IT SEEMS TO
BE THE RESULT OF HIGH LEVEL ROKG PRESSURE PLACED UPON
THEM AND THE POLICE TO REACH A STEELEMENT THAT WOULD
NOT FURTHER STRAIN KOREAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS. FOR THIS
REASON, WE ARE NOT TRANSMITTING THE NOTE VERBAL TO THE
ROKG AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, BE ASSURED THAT WE ARE
PLANNING STEPS TO PREVENT THIS TYPE OF SITUATION FROM
ARISING AGAIN.

5. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT MR. SAHEKI AND MR. ALTERMAN
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PAGE 03 SEOUL 06776 020655Z

WILL BE ABLE TO LEAVE KOREA IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. THE
POLICE HAVE TOLD US THEY EXPECT THE PROHIBITION
AGAINST HIS LEAVING KOREA WILL BE LIFTED TODAY.
HOWEVER, IT MAY TAKE A FEW DAYS TO GET AIRLINE RESER-
VATIONS DUE TO THE NORTHWEST ORIENT STRIKE. WE WILL
INFORM YOU WHEN SAHEKI DEPARTS KOREA.
GLEYSTEN

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NNN

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